# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
# LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:630
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2005
SALT POLICY
Malhotra Prof. Vijay Kumar;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan

**Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government have formulated a new-salt policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether formulation of new salt policy is likely to adversely affect lakhs of labourers and farmers engaged in production of salt indigenously;

(d) if so, action taken in this regard alongwith memoranda etc. received in this regard;

(e) the steps taken by the Government to ensure that the interest of the aforesaid indigenous producers of salt are not already affected by the above new policy; and

(f) the tax levied on salt before and after formulation of the new salt policy?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a): No, Sir.

(b) to (e): Do not arise.

(f): There is no Central tax on salt. However, Cess on salt is levied @ Rs.3.50 per tonne from Salt Works having an area of 100 acres and above; @ Rs.1.75 per tonne from Salt Works having area less than 100 acres but more than 10 acres. The Salt Works having an area upto 10 acres; cooperative societies having individuals member's land holding upto 10 acres and salt meant for exports are exempted from Cess.